

D.T.E. 03-24 - March 13, 2003

Rulemaking by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy, pursuant to 220 C.M.R. §§ 2.00 et seq., to promulgate regulations to establish a funding mechanism for wireline Enhanced 911 services, relay services for TDD/TTY users, communications equipment distribution for people with disabilities, and amplified handsets at pay telephones, as 220 C.M.R. §§ 16.00 et seq..

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY ON PROPOSED RULES
AND REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING A SURCHARGE TO FUND ENHANCED 911
SERVICES, AND CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMS FOR PERSONS
WITH DISABILITIES.

On March 13, 2003, the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") issued an Order instituting a rulemaking proceeding and promulgating proposed regulations as 220 C.M.R. §§ 16.00 et seq. to establish a surcharge to fund enhanced 911 services, and certain telecommunications programs for persons with disabilities (i.e., relay services for TDD/TTY users, communications equipment distribution for people with disabilities, and amplified handsets at pay telephones). The matter has been docketed as D.T.E. 03-24. A copy of the Department's Order and the proposed regulations may be obtained at the Department's offices at the South Station address below. In addition, the Department has posted a copy of the Order and the proposed regulations on its website, <http://www.mass.gov/dpu/>.

The Department invites interested persons to file written comments on the proposed regulations no later than the close of business, **Tuesday, April 22, 2003**. Reply comments shall be filed by **Friday, May 9, 2003**. Comments may not exceed 20 one-sided, double-spaced, type-written pages. One original and (3) three copies of initial and reply comments must be filed with:

Mary Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

In addition to filing a paper copy of written comments, commenters must, if possible, file comments in electronic format by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us (copy to Joan.Evans@state.ma.us). The electronic filing must specify: (1) the case caption; (2) the docket number (D.T.E. 03-24); (3) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (4) a brief descriptive title of document (e.g., comments). The electronic filing should also include the name, title, and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about

the filing. Text responses should be written in either Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".wpd" suffix) or in Microsoft Word, (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. Documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website, <http://www.mass.gov/dpu/>.

The Department will conduct a public hearing to receive oral comment on the proposed regulations at 10:00 a.m., **Wednesday, April 30, 2003**, at the Department's offices at One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts. Please direct any questions regarding this docket to Joan Foster Evans, Hearing Officer, at 617-305-3613, or Joan.Evans@state.ma.us.

By Order of the Department,

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary